



2023 Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission Annual Business Meeting

DoD Ex-Officio

**Dianna Ganote
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Military Community and Family Policy
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense**

Service Headquarters School Liaison Program Managers



Army – Nanette Pigg & Dr. Stephanie Borrowman



Marines – Jackie Cajina & Kristen Acquah



Navy – Horace Franklin



Air Force – Lori Phipps



Space Force – Lori Phipps



Coast Guard – Lisa Johnson



Public Health Service – CAPT Ulgen Fideli



NOAA – CAPT Douglas MacIntyre



School Liaison Program

The School Liaison Program goals are to:

- Identify barriers to academic success and develop solutions
- Promote parental involvement and educate local communities and schools regarding the needs of military children
- Develop and coordinate partnerships in education
- Provide students, parents, and school personnel with the tools they need to overcome obstacles to education that stem from the military lifestyle

The School Liaison:

- Serves as the primary point of contact for school-related matters
- Represents, informs, and assists command
- Assists military families with educational issues
- Coordinates with local school systems
- Forges partnerships between the military, community, and schools

Located at each installation, no charge to families, open to all DoD ID cardholders, and responsible for Youth Sponsorship which builds resilience in youth and eases transition.



School Liaison Program

Eligibility

- Active Duty
- National Guard and Reserve
- DoD Civilians
- Gold Star spouses
- *In loco parentis* for military connected students
- Coast Guard
- US Public Health Service
- National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration

By the Numbers (FY 22)

- 246 School Liaisons
- 35K+ schools supported
- 160 DoDEA schools
- 221 public schools on military installations
- 2,602 CYB MFLCs

Responsibilities

- Transition Support
- Education Options
- Parental Absence
- Special Education
- Information and Referral
- Community Relations
- Homeschool Support
- College, Career and Military Readiness
- Child and Youth Behavioral (CYB) Military Family Life Counselors (MFLCs)
- Grants, Resources, and Scholarships
- Critical Incident Response
- Youth Sponsorship





Education Review

October 2023 School Liaisons conducted their 4th annual state education review

Top MIC3 Challenges

- Article IV: Educational Records and Enrollment (22)
- Article V: Placement and Attendance (43)
- Article VII: Graduation (15)

General Education Challenges

- Staffing shortages, MSI, affordable housing in desirable school zones

Best Practices

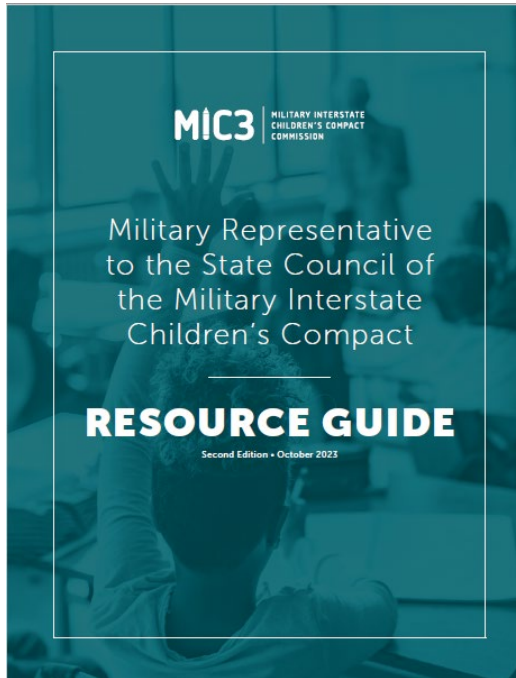
- MIC3 commissioner and stakeholder collaborations, support for Purple Star schools, increased funding/support for mental health needs

State Legislation

- Enrollment, curriculum/instructional changes, free meals



Military Representative Guide



FIVE THINGS Commanders Need to Know about MIC3

1

An interstate compact is a legal contractual agreement between two or more states. **The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children:**

- Provides uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states.
- Since 2014, all 50 states and the District of Columbia have passed legislation supporting the Compact. Additionally, DoDEA schools are required to adhere to Compact guidelines, as applicable by law.
- Addresses key educational transition issues including enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility, and graduation.

The **Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission**, or MIC3, is the governing body for the Compact. It is a national commission led by an Executive Committee and Executive Director who provide guidance, support, and assist with compliance.


2

The DoD **Military Representative to the state council** is a military member or civilian employee of DoD who interfaces with the state education system.

Only one lead military representative shall represent DoD interests on the state council. This individual is designated by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy.

However, states may appoint additional military representative but only one is designated the state lead.

Note: The Department of the Air Force and Department of the Navy requires a military service member (O-6) from a military service designated installation.



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MIC3

3

DoD Military Representative's **responsibilities:**

- Keep direct and routine communication with their School Liaison to keep abreast of the successes and challenges facing military-connected students
- Connect with the regional defense-state liaison to advocate for military families and support initiatives
- Advocate at all levels in support of military-connected students to ensure equal representation within the state
- Maintain connections with the state commissioner and support state initiatives involving military connected students

The DoD State Military Representative champions effective relationships with K-12 stakeholders to build and sustain educational awareness, strengthen community partnerships, and ensure military-connected students are provided quality education to maintain the readiness of our military forces.

4

DoD Military Representative must follow DoD ethics standard of conduct and regulations, to include:

- Representing DoD interests (not the interests of the Council)
- Explaining that opinions expressed do not bind DoD or a DoD component
- Not engaging in management, control, or endorsement of the state council

5

School Liaisons are experienced professionals who support, advise and build partnerships with the civilian and military community to help address common education challenges of military families and ensure the best possible education experience for military-connected students.

- Familiar with local, state, and federal educational issues
- Routinely identify education trends
- Support the state military representative by attending state council meetings as the SME
- Communicates regularly with their commander
- Connects with state commissioner
- Supports state initiatives impacting military connected students
- Builds partnerships with internal and external stakeholders
- Shares best practices, concerns, and stay current on education topics
- Stay informed on current legislation within the state

MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE TO STATE COUNCIL OF THE MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT RESOURCE GUIDE 13



School Liaison

- FY 23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Congressional Briefing: Exceptional Family Member School Liaison Program
- FY 23 NDAA Congressional Reporting Requirement: Recommendations for the Improvement of the Military Interstate Children's Compact
- Congressional Quality of Life Panel Engagement
- Training (School Liaison SME and Compact)
- School Liaison and MIC3 Commissioner videos



School Liaison Material

- Improved on-line transition support; use of Military OneSource MilitaryINSTALLATIONS
 - Central web page for families and educators for every DOD installation with easy access School Liaison contact
 - LINK: <https://installations.militaryonesource.mil/search?program-service=12/view-by=ALL>
- Articles and Blogs
- Facebook LIVE events: supporting transitions, deployment preparation, etc
- Podcast: just released *School Liaisons and School Districts Partnering Together to Support Military-Connected Students Postsecondary Planning and Readiness*



Military OneSource

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take full advantage of all the benefits and resources they have available



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Questions

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